at last he was moved to act. On May 5 Gandhi was arrested and a little later the Congress Working Committee declared an illegal body. As the many delegates to the Round-Table Conference booked their passages to London, the prisons filled with 25,000 non-violent non-cooperators, mostly loquacious and later to be heard at great length on legislative bodies, but some meek and silent and anonymous.

Meanwhile in England the Report of the Simon Commission had been published, at once selling over 20,000 copies, this constituting a record for a State Paper, especially one dealing with India, a country which the English have been glad enough to feel was theirs, but in which they have obstinately refused to interest themselves. The Commission had been appointed in 1927 to investigate the possibilities of extending the measure of Indian self-government which the Montague-Chelmsford Reforms had introduced. The deliberate omission of any Indian from its personnel of seven made it unpopular in India from the beginning, and Sir John Simon and his colleagues were received in Bombay with black flags and shrill concerted shouts of 'Simon, go back!' Undeterred by this unpromising reception, they proceeded to conduct their investigations, and in due course presented a Report advocating provincial autonomy, but a continuation of the existing non-representative Central Government.

By the time all the leading articles on this Report, including several by Mr. Garvin in which he advocated 'cool heads and warm feet', had been written, and summaries of its chief recommendations published, and compliments paid to its

style, comprehensiveness and insight, it had become apparent that no voice in India had been raised in its favour. Of the Indian population of 320,000,000 at least 300,000,000 were unaware that any Commission had ever been appointed to report on constitutional reform in India, or for any other purpose; would have looked with wonder on MacDonald with his irregular moustache, and have listened, astonished, to his vibrant Scottish voice prophesying their future peace, prosperity and freedom; had no idea what a Commission, Simon or other, was, or what constitutional